

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Kazuaki OKUNO et al.)	Confirmation No.: 9193
Application No.: 10/573,821)	Group Art Unit: 1652
Filed: March 28, 2006)	Examiner: Sheridan Swope
For: POLYPEPTIDE CLEAVAGE METHOD USING OmpT PROTEASE VARIANT)	

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
MAIL STOP PCT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 3.

Remarks begin on page 10.